

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221459

FOLLOWING REPEAT LAGOS 10836 ACTION SECSTATE NAIROBI USUN NY
INFO BONN DAR ES SALAAM GABORONE LONDON LUSAKA MAPUTO OTTAWA
PARIS PRETORIA DATED AUG 30:

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 10836

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NAMIBIA

REF: (A) STATE 219790 (NOTAL), (B) GABORONE 2732

1. CHARGE AND POLCOUNS MET WITH MEA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR SANU TODAY (AUGUST 30) TO MAKE DEMARCHE
ALONG LINES REFTTEL A. SANU SAID THAT HARRIMAN HAD ALREADY BEEN
INSTRUCTED NOT TO ATTEND INFORMAL COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS ON
31ST AND NOT TO AGREE TO SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING BEFORE SEPTEMBER
11. SANU SAID THAT AFRICAN GROUP DOES NOT BELIEVE IN RUSHING
TO SCHEDULE A MEETING BEFORE THEY AND SWAPO HAVE TIME TO STUDY
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AHTISAARI'S REPORT AND AS YET THEY HAVE NOT EVEN RECEIVED IT.
HE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE NIGERIANS WANT TO HAVE TIME TO CONSULT
WITH SAM NUJOMA. FURTHERMORE, THE HEAD OF STATE WANTS ADEFOPE
TO ATTEND THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING AND HE TOO NEEDS TIME TO
STUDY THE MATTER. WHEN CHARGE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT THE
SUCCESS OF A POSITIVE TRANSITION OF NAMIBIA TO INDEPENDENCE
MAY DEPEND ON MOVING QUICKLY IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND POINTED

TO THE INCREASED MILITARY ACTIVITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, SANU RESPONDED TO THE EFFECT THAT IT WAS EXPECTED THAT SWAPO SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN ITS POSITION BEFORE A CEASE-FIRE WERE DECLARED.

3. SANU FINALLY AGREED TO IMMEDIATELY INSTRUCT HARRIMAN TO ATTEND THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING TOMORROW MORNING ON THE UNDERSTANDING IT WAS ONLY A MEETING TO DISCUSS TIMING. HE WOULD ALSO BE REMINDED, HOWEVER, THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD HE AGREE TO A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING BEFORE SEPTEMBER 11.

4. COMMENT: ON LEAVING SANU, WE ENCOUNTERED DR. FAFOWARA LEAVING THE BUILDING AND MENTIONED OUR MEETING WITH SANU. FAFOWARA VOLUNTEERED THE INFORMATION THAT SAM NUJOMA WAS ARRIVING IN LAGOS TONIGHT. (AN HOUR EARLIER, ITALIAN CHARGE ARAGONA GAVE THE SAME INFORMATION TO POLCOUNS, SAYING THAT NIGERIANS ASKED NUJOMA TO COME.) FAFOWARA SAID THAT ORIGINALLY HE AND NUJOMA WERE GOING TO PROCEED TOGETHER TO NEW YORK ON SUNDAY. HOWEVER, HE HAD JUST BEEN INFORMED TO CANCEL THE RESERVATIONS. WHEN ASKED ABOUT NUJOMA'S PLANS NOW, HE SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY STAY IN LAGOS TWO OR THREE DAYS AND THEN RETURN TO LUSAKA.

5. WE WERE LEFT WITH DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT NIGERIANS ARE DELIBERATELY STALLING TO: A) ASSERT THEIR LEADERSHIP; B) GET A DATE TO FIT IN WITH ADEFOPE'S SCHEDULE (FYI: WE KNOW HE WILL BE OCCUPIED THROUGH SEPTEMBER 3 WITH VISIT OF CZECH FORMIN. CONFIDENTIAL

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END FYI); AND C) BUY TIME FOR SWAPO TO "STRENGTHEN THEIR POSITION".

LEWIS
UNATE CHRISTOPHER

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